

NEWS RELEASE
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HOUSE APPROVES ISTOOK AMENDMENTS TO KILL TWO FEDERAL AGENCIES

The U.S. House of Representatives has again approved a proposal by Oklahoma Congressman Ernest Istook, (R-OK), to do away with two unnecessary federal commissions.

The full House voted in favor of Istook's amendments to eliminate the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, (ACIR), and the Administrative Conference of the United States, (ACUS).

Upon final congressional approval, the cuts would save \$2.8 million that would otherwise be appropriated to these agencies.

"There are over 6,500 permanent advisory committees, panels, task forces, commissions, conferences, and so on, " Istook said. "Some people in Washington think we can't do without a couple of them, even to cut federal spending."

Last year, Rep. Istook proposed eliminating the two commissions, in addition to the Citizen's Commission on Public Service and Compensation, and the Office of Federal Procurement Policy. The Citizen's Commission on Public Service and Compensation was successfully eliminated, while funding for the other three was cut as a result of Istook's efforts.

"On the Hill, many people look upon a million dollars the same way as they would look upon finding a penny on the sidewalk," Rep. Istook noted. "It's ridiculous, however, to pay for so much bureaucracy without ever questioning it."

Both the House and Senate must still approve that final report for the cuts to occur.